

July 16, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, July 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office, 1016 St. Mary Street, Thibodaux, LA

Present were: Gene Harrell-, Vice-Chairman
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
Jake Giardina
Francis Richard
Donald Schwab
Eli Miles, Jr.
Chris Domangue
Ray Mayet
Scott LeBlanc

Absent: Hugh Caffery, Chairman; Lance Authement

Also present: Dan Grandal, Stantec; Nick Speyer, Emergent Method; Julie Lapeyrouse; Jason Kennedy
David Boudreaux; Kristyn Childers, Millage Management; Stevie Smith; Ryan Perque, FOBL
John Lafargue; FOBL; Henry Templet; Hattie Templet; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP; Doug Cheramie
Michael Mistretta; Josh Bordelon; Robert Mire; Nick Porto; Jerry Waguespack
Ben Malbrough, Executive Director; Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Jana Langley, Administrative Asst.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell chaired the meeting in the absence of Hugh Caffery, Chairman.

Moved by Commissioner Chris Domangue, seconded by Francis Richard to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of June 18, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina to approve the accounts payable for June. Motion carried unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr. to approve the finance reports for June. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Malbrough advised that he sent the pumping summary to the Board, and it shows that we are now below the level of siphoning. There is nothing out of the ordinary to report with the pump station or the bayou.

Mr. Nick Speyer of Emergent Method stated that he appreciates the District's consideration for the summit proposal. He stated that they have experience doing public outreach, public engagements, and marketing. He advised that the proposal they submitted outlines a nice framework for how they will go about executing the summit. We would want to start the planning by pulling together a small steering committee. We would want to make sure what we are spending time on what is in the best interest of this District. He stated that they want to do branding, marketing, and outreach not just on the summit but around this organization to build excitement up around the summit.

Mr. Malbrough stated that Nick facilitated the CPRA outreach component of the master plan in 2012 and 2017. The stakeholder groups we will be identifying with will be pretty much the same, and that is why Hugh and he felt they were the best fit to carry this job out.

Commissioner Chris Domangue asked how long the summit will be, and Mr. Speyer answered that it will be a one to two day summit. There will be different components to the summit. Commissioner Francis Richard asked if there will be different activities during the summit, such as interactive sessions, and Mr. Speyer answered that the purpose is around future imagining and envisioning.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked Mr. Speyer what type of attendance he feels would be a success in what they are trying to achieve, and Mr. Speyer answered it is one of those deals in which quality might be more important than quantity. If

the end goal is to potentially attract additional funds then there is a quality prospective, and we want to make sure we engage the right stakeholders.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schwab to approve the summit proposal submitted by Emergent Method not to exceed \$63,000. If they approach \$63,000, Board approval will be required. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet and unanimously approved to open the public hearing to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rate after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum.

Ms. Kristyn Childers with Millage Management stated that she was hired to help the District handle the roll forward requirements for the Terrebonne Parish millage. She advised that Terrebonne Parish failed their ratio study this year. She explained that in 2013 the voters of Terrebonne parish approved a 2.11 mill tax for twenty-one years. In the 2016 reassessment, the 2.11 mills was adjusted down to 2.06 mills to receive the same amount of money. We have to go through the roll forward process in order to secure the 2.11 mills until it expires. The District is looking at increasing their revenue of about \$47,556.23 based on last year's values. We are not going any higher than what the voters already approved for the twenty-one years. However, taxes will increase based on their value going from the adjusted rate to the maximum rate.

Mr. Malbrough advised that if we do not roll forward to the 2.11 mills, then we lose our ability to roll forward to 2.11 should we ever need to through 2033. Ms. Childers stated if we do not secure the maximum rate then the 2.06 will then become our maximum rate. Once you levy and secure your 2.11 maximum rate, you can drop it the following year.

Ms. Childers asked for any questions from the public, and there were none. Vice-Chairman asked three times for any public comments on rolling forward the Terrebonne parish millage from 2.06 to 2.11 maximum.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved to close the public hearing on rolling forward the Terrebonne Parish millage from 2.06 to 2.11 mills.

Moved by Commissioner Eli Miles, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Scott LeBlanc and unanimously approved to return to the public meeting.

Ms. Childers announced that the next item on the agenda is public meeting/public comments to adopt the adjusted rate for tax year 2018. Ms. Childers read Resolution No. 1 in full to adopt the adjusted rate for tax year 2018. The roll was called and the votes were as follows: Yeas 9; Nays 0; Abstained 0; Absent 3. Resolution No. 1 passed by a simple majority vote of total membership of the board.

Ms. Childers announced that the next item on the agenda is public meeting/public comments to set forth the adjusted millage rate and roll forward to millage rate not exceeding the maximum authorized rate. Ms. Childers read Resolution No. 2 in full to set forth the adjusted millage rate and roll forward to millage rate not exceeding the maximum authorized rate of 2.11. The roll was called and the votes were as follows: Yeas 9; Nays 0; Abstained 0; Absent 3. Resolution No. 2 passed by two-thirds vote of the total membership of the board.

Mr. Dan Grandal with Stantec gave an update on the 60% design of the Pump Capacity Improvements Project as follows:

❖ **Design Changes from 30% to 60%**

- Access to Pump Station (Bridge Length Reduction); Discharge Pipe Size Reduction (78" to 72")
- Intake Structure; Intake Pipe Invert (El -11.0 to El -10.0)
- Seepage Control Measures based on USACE comments
- Discharge Box Location – space restrictions

- Expansion of Sedimentation Basin; Braced Cofferdam
- ❖ **60% Construction Cost Estimate**
 - Pump Station - **\$56.5 Million**; Bayou Lafourche Sediment Trap Improvements - **\$ 4.0 Million**
 - Contingency 10% -**\$ 6.0 Million**; Grand Total - **\$66.5 Million**
- ❖ **90% Costs - Saving Opportunities – Value Engineering**
 - Discharge Pipe (Only Install 4 Pipes) – \$1.3M
 - VFD (2 Pumps with VFDs/2 with Soft Starters) – \$360K
 - Wall Thickness Optimization (Concrete and Rebar) – \$1M
 - Stabilization of Steel Prices - \$400K
 - Pipe Wall Thickness Optimization – \$1.2M
 - Optimization of Seepage Control Measures – \$430K
 - Pipe Pile Length and Materials – \$200K
 - Sedimentation Basin - \$1M
- ❖ **60% O&M Costs – Operational Assessment**
 - **Maintenance**
Identification of all components that require maintenance
 - **Operation**
Calculated expected energy costs; Savings from siphoning based on historical river levels
- ❖ **Operational Cost**
 - Average Yearly O&M Cost 2013 - 2017 - \$850,000; Projected O&M Costs - \$1.4 Million
- ❖ **Energy Costs Analysis - 4 Pumps with Siphoning / Power Generation**
 - Total Yearly Cost - \$695,000
- ❖ **Replacement Assessment**
 - Identification of design life of each component; Cost of each component
 - Annualized cost for replacement based on design life
- ❖ **Annualized Cost for System Replacement at end of 35 years - \$469,500; Structure has 100 years design life**
- ❖ **Water Facility Intake Relocation**
 - Ascension Parish – feasibility on 3 alternatives
 - Option 1: Independent Facility; Option 2: Locate at Proposed Facility; Option 3: Locate at Existing Facility
- ❖ **90% Design Update**
 - Value Engineering Options ; Finalize plans and specifications; Update Cost Estimate
- ❖ **Final Design**
 - Respond to Client Comments / ITR Comments; Respond to USACE / CPRA comments
 - Update Final Plans and specs; Finalize Bid Package
- ❖ **We are on schedule to complete final design by year end.**
 - 60% by 7/2018 – Submittal of USACE Permit; 90% by 10/2018
 - Final Construction Documents – 12/2018; Bidding and Construction Period to 2021

Commissioner Jake Giardina asked about the funding for the project, and Mr. Malbrough answered that we have \$35 million identified so are more than halfway there. We are looking at some other options.

Mr. Malbrough reported that the District had committed \$50,000 in the budget to assist in the removal of derelict vessels, and Lafourche Parish budgeted \$200,000. They asked that we manage the project and they will reimburse us for the expenses that are incurred. He advised that Lafourche Parish Government approved the IGA at their meeting, and he asked that the Board authorize him to sign the IGA, which will initiate the removal and disposal of derelict vessels.

Commissioner Greg Nolan asked if we pay 20% of each derelict vessel, and Mr. Malbrough answered that we committed \$50,000. The first thing we will do per the IGA is we will bring on a consultant who will prepare a removal plan.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Greg Nolan and unanimously approved to authorize Ben Malbrough to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lafourche Parish Government for the removal and disposal of derelict vessels in Bayou Lafourche.

Moved by Commissioner Donald Schwab, seconded by Commissioner Jake Giardina and unanimously approved to adopt a resolution certifying that funds for the design and construction of the north Bayou Lafourche Water Control Structure are secured, and have been allocated by the District to be used in conjunction with any grant funds secured through the Delta Regional Authority States' Economic Development Assistance Program to implement the project.

Mr. Ryan Perque gave an update on the Friends of Bayou Lafourche as follows:

- The final master plan for the Nicholls Bayouside should be in hand in the next few days.
- Resolution passed by BLFWD supporting submitting a grant application for the Louisiana Recreational Trails Program. The Friends of Bayou Lafourche Board of Directors also passed a Resolution of support. The grant would fund the first phase of the Nicholls Bayouside Park, which would be a parking lot, floating dock, boardwalk along the area, and tree clearing.
- Continuing to work with Lafourche Parish public works director James Borne on the improvements with Leighton Boat Launch that Lafourche Parish included in their budget.
- Received a grant through the Bayou Community Foundation, and the Caillouet Family Fund to produce a comprehensive map of the entire bayou, which will include parks, docks, launches, restaurants, RV parks, etc.
- Continuing to work with Ben to publicize the work the District is doing.
- He will be the guest speaker at the Chamber of Commerce breakfast next Wednesday at Claiborne. He will talk about the work that Friends of Bayou Lafourche is doing, and projects the District is doing.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell asked for any public comments. Mr. Jerry Waguespack asked if the vessels will be full of mud, and Mr. Malbrough answered that he is sure there will be some mud in them but these guys do this every day.

Moved by Commissioner Jake Giardina, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

